THOMAS W. WILSON

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July 25, 2003

The Honorable Tom Davis, Chair House Committee on Government Reform 2157 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-6143

SUBJECT: SUPPORT- H.R. 1345 (Lantos, Wexler, Graves, Watson, Brown,

Faleomavaega) - Equity for Reservists Pay Act of 2003

Dear Chair Davis:

On behalf of the Orange County, California Board of Supervisors, I am writing to urge your AYE vote on H.R. 1345, the Equity for Reservists Pay Act of 2003 when it comes before your Committee.

The Equity for Reservists Pay Act of 2003 will entitle a Federal employee, who is also a member of the reserves and who is absent from his or her civilian employment position under a call or order for active duty service of more than 30 days, to receive an amount equal to the difference in pay between the military compensation received and the civilian compensation that otherwise would have been received during such period.

Section 3 of this bill provides for reimbursement to state and local governments of up to 50 percent of the civilian compensation paid by the state of local government that elect to continue to pay employees who serve on active duty in a reserve component of the uniformed services.

I am pleased to inform you that the County of Orange, California passed a resolution in late 2001 providing for the equity in pay for our employees who are also activated reservists within the various branches of the United States military. The County applauds the intent of H.R. 1345 and encourages you to support this legislation.

On behalf of the Orange County Board of Supervisors I urge your AYE vote on H.R. 1345.

Sincerely,

THOMAS W. WILSON, Chair

Board of Supervisors

c: Members, Board of Supervisors

Members, Orange County Congressional Delegation

Members, Committee on Government Reform

James D. Ruth, Interim County Executive Officer

Bill Mahoney, Assistant CEO, Strategic & Intergovernmental Affairs

James F. McConnell, Washington Legislative Advocate

Vicki Mathews, Director, CEO Public Affairs